

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

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SUBJECT: HARSH CRITICISM OF US ACTIONS IN VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA

USINFO FOR IOP/M; USIA FOR IEE, IBS/PE, IOP

1. SUMMARY: GOOD DEAL OF CROWING IN THE BULGARIAN PRESS
ABOUT DEFEATS OF US-SUPPORTED REGIMES IN CAMBODIA AND VIETNAM.
GOVT IS COVERING ITSELF HOWEVER BY HAVING FRONT ORGANIZATION
MAKE MOST OFFENSIVE COMMENTS (E.G., ON "ABDUCTION" OF
VIETNAMESE ORPHANS) AND NOT FULLY REPORTING THEM IN MASS MEDIA.
THERE IS ENOUGH OFFENSIVE MATERIAL IN PRESS, HOWEVER, TO
JUSTIFY STATEMENT AT AMBASSADOR'S NEXT MEETING WITH FOREIGN
MINISTER THAT WE ARE CAREFULLY WATCHING THESE COMMENTS WHICH
DO NOT CONTRIBUTE TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF RELATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. PRESS APRIL 18 CARRIED SIGNED COLUMNS DEROGATORY TOWARDS
US IN CONNECTION WITH FALL OF PHNOM PENH. BCP PARTY ORGAN
RABOTNICHESKO DELO STATED, "ONE MILLION CASUALTIES -- THIS
IS THE BALANCE OF THE FIVE-YEAR WAR STARTED BY LON NOL
AND HIS CLIQUE, WHO TURNED INTO DOCILE TOOLS OF
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AMERICAN IMPERIALISM AND ITS ASPIRATION TO PLAY THE ROLE

OF WORLD GENDARME. THE TIME HAS COME NOW FOR THE PHNOM PENH PUPPETS AND THEIR TRANSATLANTIC PROTECTORS TO PAY FOR THEIR ANTI-PEOPLE'S POLICY".

3. TRUD RAN PICTURE OF AMBASSADOR DEAN CARRYING AMERICAN FLAG IN PLASTIC BAG AND COMMENTED THAT EVACUATION FROM PHNOM PENH "IS BEING EVALUATED IN WASHINGTON AS BRILLIANT. LET US WISH THEM MORE SUCH OPERATIONS. BUT IF DEAN WERE NOT IN SUCH A HURRY, IF HE COULD HAVE LOOKED BACK, HE WOULD HAVE SEEN THE STATE OF WILDERNESS IN WHICH THE US WAS LEAVING THIS ONETIME FLOURISHING COUNTRY, WHERE THE CIA MADE CONSECUTIVE COUPS. ...AND END HAS BEEN PUT TO ANOTHER ADVENTURE OF AMERICAN IMPERIALISM".

4. OTECHESTVEN FRONT COLUMN SAID, "IN THE ILLUSIVE PURSUIT OF A MILITARY VICTORY IN VIETNAM, THE US DID NOT STOP SHORT OF ANYTHING. THE LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT OF PRINCE NORODOM SIHANOUK WAS ELIMINATED ...JUST BECAUSE OF PURELY TACTICAL OPERATIONAL TASKS -- TO STRIKE FROM THE REAR THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE LIBERATION FORCES IN THE DELTA OF THE MEKONG RIVER...." NARODNA MLADEZH CONCLUDED, "THE LIBERATION OF CAMBODIA IS A DEFEAT OF THE IMPERIALIST COURSE FOLLOWED BY THE MILITARIST CIRCLES IN THE US AND AT THE SAME TIME IS A GRAVE WARNING OF THE UNAVOIDABLE FAILURE OF THEIR ADVENTUROUS POLICY IN SOUTH VIETNAM, IN INDOCHINA AND THROUGHOUT SOUTHEAST ASIA".

5. BULGARIAN COMMITTEE FOR SOLIDARITY WITH VIETNAM ISSUED DECLARATION APRIL 15. SANITIZED SUMMARY WAS CARRIED IN PRESS FOLLOWING DAY BUT FULL COPY WAS DELIVERED TO EMBASSY APRIL 17. PURPORTING TO SPEAK FOR "BULGARIAN PEOPLE", DECLARATION GREETED "WITH DELIGHT" VICTORIES OVER "CORRUPT SAIGON CLIQUE" AND CONDEMNED "ABDUCTION" OF SOUTH VIETNAMESE ORPHANS TO US. DECLARATION INSISTED ON IMMEDIATE END TO EVACUATION OF ORPHANS, CESSATION OF ALL MILITARY AID TO SAIGON, AND "STRICT OBSERVANCE OF PARIS ACCORDS".

6. PRESS REPORTS THAT PRG AMBASSADOR IN INTERVIEW WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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JOURNALISTS APRIL 16 CALLED ON US TO STOP MILITARY SUPPORT OF "SAIGON PUPPET REGIME" AND CLARIFIED PRG DECLARATION AGAINST "FORCIBLE EVACUATION OF SOUTH VIETNAMESE POPULATION AND AGAINST INTENSIFICATION OF US MILITARY COMMITMENT AND INTERFERENCE IN SOUTH VIETNAM".

7. COMMENT: AS EXPECTED BULGARIANS ARE GLOATING ABOUT US DISCOMFITURE IN SEA AND TRUMPETING VICTORIES

OF THEIR FRIENDS. THAT STATEMENT BY PRG AMBASSADOR
WOULD BE WIDELY REPORTED ALSO NORMAL; BUT THERE IS
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HAILING THE SUCCESSES OF COMMUNISTS
AND CONCOMITANT DEFEATS OF OUR FRIENDS, AND SLINGING
MUD AT THE US. WE ARE WATCHING THESE COMMENTS VERY
CAREFULLY AND WHEN AMBASSADOR NEXT SEES FOREIGN
MINISTER INTEND, UNLESS DEPARTMENT PERCEIVES OBJECTION,
TO CALL ATTENTION TO THAT DIFFERENCE, AND TO FACT THAT SUCH
COMMENTS ARE NOT CONTRIBUTING TO AN IMPROVEMENT IN
RELATIONS WITH US.

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